

A Cat's Life Rescue
3706 35th Street, Mount Rainier, MD 20712
202-431-0788
acatsliferescue.org



Dear the Town of Cheverly:

A Cat's Life Rescue (ACLR) is pleased to present this proposal for consideration of a \$5,000.00 grant from the Cheverly.

MISSION:

A Cat's Life Rescue was founded to help homeless cats in Prince George's county (MD) lead a healthy and safe life without adding to the challenges around feral cat populations. Founded in 2019 as a 501(c)(3) by members of diverse communities from across Prince George's County who saw the desperate need of the people and animals in our large economically and racially diverse county, A Cat's Life Rescue offers programming in four service areas:

- **Adoption** services to find homes for rescued kittens and cats and kittens;
- **Medical care** for stray cats in need of (often urgent) treatment, and for cats whose owners cannot afford veterinarian services;
- **Community Education** programming around feral and house cats, with an emphasis on therapeutic and other support programs for people with special needs; and
- **Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR)** for feral cats, a best-practice program in which feral cats in the community are humanely caught, spay/neutered, and released back into their colonies (without any risk of increasing the existing population afterwards).

RESULTS:

Since the start of our operations in May 2019, ACLR has provided TNR to over 2,500 cats in the county, and adopted out nearly 1,600 cats from PG County to loving homes in the county, region, and all over the mid-Atlantic and northeastern United States. We found all these felines happy homes, and they went to their new families fully vaccinated, dewormed, tested for FIV and FeLV, and microchipped. The impact of being able to spay/neuter this many feral cats is extensive, considering a cat can have two or three litters per year, and produce up to 100 kittens over her reproductive life. Assuming half of the cats in our TNR program are female, we have directly prevented the addition of as many as 125,000 cats living on our streets. And—since male cats can reproduce numerous times during their lifetime—we likely halted the growth of the feral cat population in our county by that number many times over. Our success in this area has been rewarded with three (increasingly large) grants in a row from the Maryland Department of Agriculture's Spay and Neuter Program; this year we are one of only 31 groups in the state to receive such a grant!

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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- Kate Wall, Board Member
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KEY PERSONNEL

- Kelley Bevis, Executive Director
- Niki Cochran, Program Director

GRANT PURPOSE AND PLAN:

After discussions with the Town Council in Cheverly, we aim to help in addressing the growing feral cat problem within the town. Using the "Divide by 15" Rule, it can be estimated that there are as many as 401 unfixed outdoor cats in the town. In order to address this issue, we seek funding for veterinary services for these feral cats. Each feral cat that is TNR-ed through ACLR receives a spay/neuter surgery, as well as both rabies and distemper vaccinations. Providing the necessary volunteer training, equipment, and follow-up support to humanely and safely trap free-roaming felines costs about \$75 per cat (more information on this figure and the different veterinary clinics we work with is available upon request). This amount covers volunteers trapping the cat, the cat's trip to the vet where they will be assessed for health and behavior, spayed, and vaccinated, and—if domesticating isn't an option—releasing them again in their habitat. The \$4,750 within this grant budget would allow us to TNR 63 cats. An additional \$250 shall be used for the printing of flyers and promotional material. ACLR intends to use our small army of volunteers, many of which are bilingual, to canvas Cheverly in order to identify outdoor cats and connect with residents who care for them. We also aim to employ the forces of Cheverly Cats, a branch of ACLR founded by Cheverly residents Aga Pukniel and Agata Tajchert to further promote our work and coordinate trapping.

Canvassing would occur approximately once a month, then using the information gathered from these efforts, cats that are identified shall be systematically trapped and TNR'd during the course of that month, until the 50 cat goal is achieved. If granted the \$5,000 from the Town of Cheverly, we would expect to start using the grant money as soon as it is distributed, and believe that we could TNR the 50 cats by the end of 2024, given the small size of Cheverly and our existing resources. Other outreach efforts, such as postings in the Cheverly newsletter and attending Cheverly events are also planned.

This work would drastically improve the quality of life for these animals, as well as help control the population growth by preventing the birth of as many as additional cats outside. Our efforts in the community reduce many of the nuisances associated with a large feral cat population, including the

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spread of disease, cat feces in public and private areas, and of course, the devastation of injured and/or killed cats and kittens whether by man or nature. Your funding would touch all major priorities of our mission from increasing TNR, and allowing us to continue caring for cats that are eligible for our adoption program, to providing life-changing (sometimes -saving) health care to cats in need. In addition to improving the well-being of our communities as a whole by reducing the number of stray and homeless cats, our efforts of course benefit the cats themselves as well as the people who care and/or interact with them.

BUDGET:

Item	Price	Quantity	Total
Vet Services (Surgery, Distemper Vaccine, Rabies Vaccine)	75	63.33	\$4,750.00
Printing	250		\$250.00
Total			\$5,000.00

CLOSING:

Thank you so much for taking the time to read and consider our proposal, and how we can work together to improve the lives of cats in Cheverly, MD. Please do not hesitate to contact our volunteer Grants Manager Karina Nelson at grants@acatsliferescue.org or our Executive Director Kelley Bevis at kelly@acatsliferescue.org or 202-431-0788 to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Karina Nelson
Volunteer Grants Manager

Kelley Bevis
Executive Director